

Raised Bill No. 5322: AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A HUMAN SERVICES
PERMIT AND A REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS CONDUCT HOME
VISITS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Education Committee

Submitted By: Anthony P. Cianchetti

In regards to the mandated home visits, while the intentions may be good, I think this would wholeheartedly be a detriment due to time constraints. I often build relationships with parents through phone call, emails, GoogleMeets, and by building strong rapport with their child. I foresee that I would be pressuring my parents to meet with me in their home "just to fill a quota". In addition, when would this take place? Most parents work during tradition hours. Contractually, most school personal are not required to work before or after regular school hours. I certainly make home visits on a proactive and as needed basis. I would also surmise that this mandate could impose significant time constraints with more meaningful social work duties that better service students. Was pleased to see that recent conversations advocated for more school social work hires, yet this portion of the bill contradicts the need to hire fully qualified masters level school social workers by allowing an individual with a narrower bachelor's degree to service students. I believe that students, whether it's regular education, 504 or Special Education students, would not receive the same level of care.

Sincerely,
Tony Cianchetti